

REPLACEMENT ABSTRACT



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for calculating the average weight of each of a plurality of portions of material fed from a hopper. The method is carried out by: first weighing the hopper; after the first weighing, dispensing a given plurality of portions of material; then, in a second weighing step, again weighing the hopper; calculating the difference between the weight of the hopper determined in the first weighing step and the weight of ~~said~~the hopper determined in the second weighing step, the difference constituting the loss of weight of ~~said~~the hopper; and dividing the loss of weight of the hopper by the given plurality of portions. The weighing steps may be performed with a weighing device having a load cell and the given plurality of portions is equal to at least the number calculated by dividing the sensitivity of ~~said~~the load cell by the estimated weight of each fed portion.